

In the Specification (continued):

Please amend the abstract of the disclosure as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

5

The invention is a procedure for measuring the binding of an entity (ligand) to a surface by using a hapten-conjugated version of the ligand (hapten-ligand). An excess of the hapten-ligand is presented to the binding surface and excess (unbound) hapten-ligand is washed off. Bound hapten-ligand is then solubilized (removed) and applied to a 10 membrane support or separated by electrophoresis and applied to a membrane support. Known amounts of hapten-ligand are similarly applied to the membrane, to provide for hapten-ligand standards. The membrane-bound hapten-ligand is detected by application of an enzyme-conjugated antibody to the hapten; or by application of an antibody to the hapten followed by application of an enzyme-conjugated antibody to the anti-hapten 15 antibody. The resultant membrane-associated enzyme is detected and quantitated by the application of a color or light-producing substrate which reacts with the enzyme. ~~Results obtained from the standards are used to calculate the amount of hapten ligand in the membrane areas corresponding to the unknowns. Thus, the amount of hapten ligand originally bound to the surface can be determined.~~ A combination of the use of anti- 20 hapten antibodies along with membrane-blotting technologies to assess hapten-ligand binding to surfaces is not found in the scientific or patent literature, particularly in regards to ~~assessing protein binding to cell surfaces.~~